



Gila River Indian Community Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Study

Final Work Plan

Prepared by:



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and Associates, Inc.

**Prepared for:
Gila River Indian Community**

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1. Introduction

STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to evaluate pedestrian safety needs on the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC or Community) and identify a recommended program of multimodal corridor enhancements to address the identified needs. Projects can include sidewalks/shared use paths, bus stops/turnouts, drainage improvements such as culvert replacement and new culverts, and other infrastructure to support the Community's long term pedestrian safety goals. Kimley-Horn will develop planning-level cost estimates for each proposed enhancement and help identify potential funding sources.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

Develop a final report that will be used to guide future growth and development of improved pedestrian facilities for five-, 10 -, and 20-year planning horizons. The Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Plan will also be used by other departments who may have an interest, and who may use the information to improve land use and to plan drainage improvements. The study will be used to identify and support funding for projects.

STUDY AREA

The study area is shown in **Figure 1**.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A core Project Management Team (PMT) will provide project direction and input to the study. The PMT will include representatives of the Gila River Indian Community, ADOT Multimodal Planning Division, the Kimley-Horn team and ADOT Communication staff. Meetings are planned to be held once monthly. The meetings will be an opportunity to review and discuss progress, findings, and recommendations of the study. The PMT representatives are listed in **Table 1**.

In addition to the PMT, a broader-based Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be established. The purpose of the TAC is to provide input on study technical issues related to the study and to review and comment on study deliverables. The TAC representation list is provided in **Table 2**. The TAC is expected to meet four times during the course of the project; as shown in the study schedule on page 10.

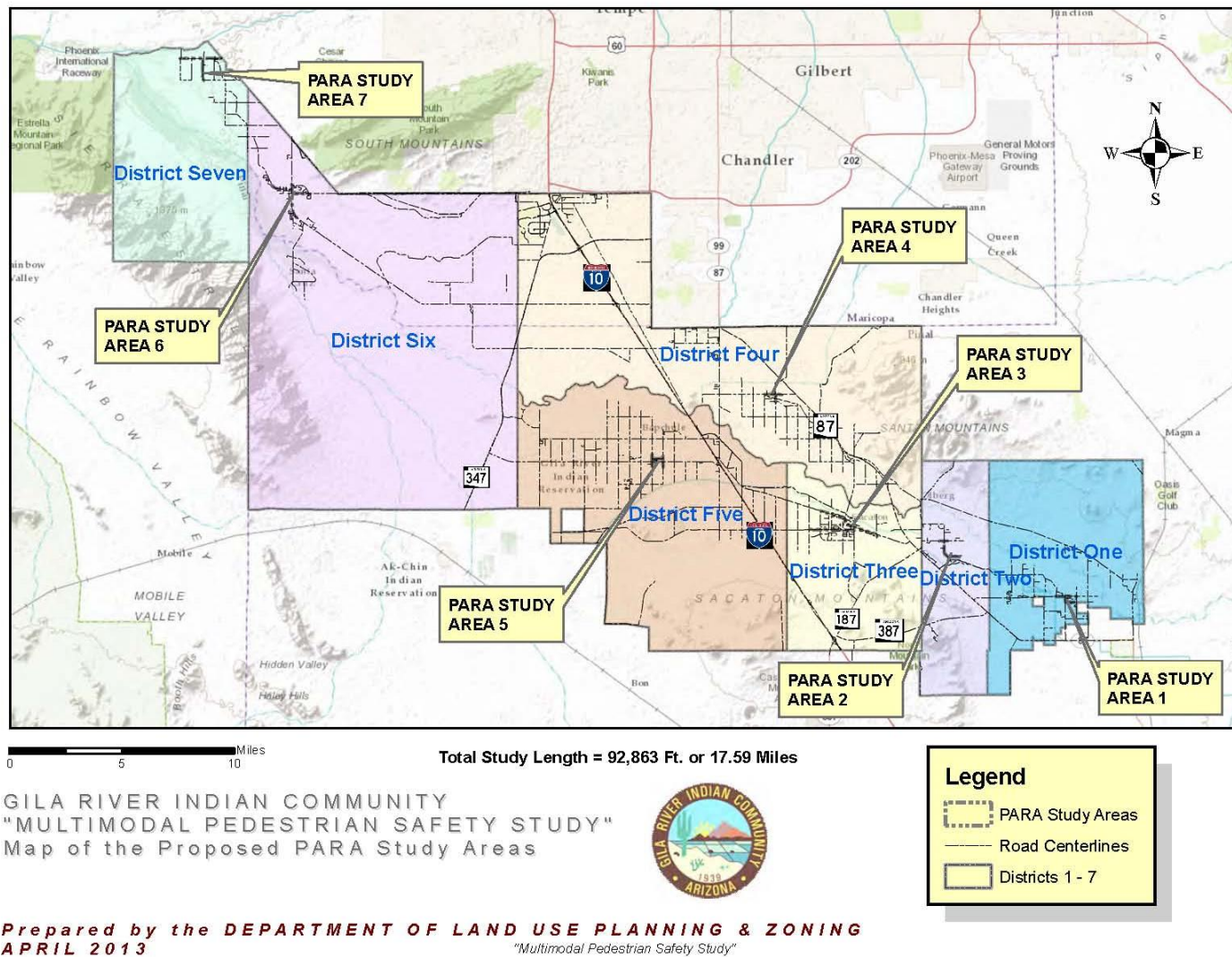


Figure 1 - Study Area Map

STAKEHOLDERS

Road users and stakeholders that have been identified for this study include those listed below. The list of identified stakeholders may expand, as needed, throughout the course of the study. These road users will be interviewed during the early stages of the project to assist in determining needs and deficiencies.

- Gila River Indian Community Police Department
- Gila River Indian Community – Department of Community Housing
- Gila River Indian Community – Department of Housing Development
- Gila River Indian Community – Cultural Resources Management Program
- Gila River Indian Community Youth Council
- Gila River Indian Community Elderly Program
- Pima - Maricopa Irrigation District
- Gila River Indian Community Social Services-Community Development
- Gila River Indian Community Fire Department
- Valley Metro RPTA
- Coolidge High School
- District 1 Multipurpose Center
- District 1 Elderly Center
- Blackwater Community School
- District 2 Service Center
- District 3 Service Center
- District 3 Boys & Girls Club of Sacaton
- District 3 Wellness Center
- Sacaton Public Schools (Elementary and Middle School)
- Vechij Himdag Mashchamakud Alternative High School
- District 4 Service Center
- District 4 Head Start
- District 5 Service Center
- St. Peters Missionary School
- Skyline School
- Casa Blanca Community School
- Ira Hayes High School
- District 6 Service Center
- Boys & Girls Club Komatke Branch
- District 6 Head Start
- District 6 Elderly Center, Pecos Road
- Gila Crossing Community School
- District 7 Service Center

Table 1 - Project Management Team Members

Organization	Name	E-mail
ADOT Multimodal Planning Division	Misty Klann Transportation Planner and Tribal Liaison ADOT Project Manager	MKlann@azdot.gov
Gila River Indian Community Land Use, Planning and Zoning Department	Michael Lomakema Tribal lead contact	Michael.Lomakema@gric.nsn.us
Gila River Indian Community Land Use, Planning and Zoning Department	Seaver Fields GRIC Project Coordinator	Seaver.FieldsIII@gric.nsn.us
Gila River Indian Community Department of Transportation	Sasha Pachito Tribal Transportation Planner	Sasha.Pachito@gric.nsn.us
Gila River Indian Community Land Use, Planning and Zoning Department	Barney Bigman Land Use Planner	Barney.Bigman@gric.nsn.us
ADOT Communications	Tony Staffaroni Community Relations Project Manager	astaffaroni@azdot.gov
Kimley-Horn and Associates	Mary Rodin KHA Project Manager	mary.rodin@kimley-horn.com
Kimley-Horn and Associates	Brent Crowther Project Engineer	brent.crowther@kimley-horn.com

Table 2 - Technical Advisory Committee

<p>Seaver Fields, Project Coordinator Department of Land Use Planning & Zoning Gila River Indian Community 291 West Casa Blanca Road P.O. Box E Sacaton, AZ 85147 Phone: (520) 562-6003 ext 6519 Phone: (520) 610-1935 (cell) Fax: (520) 562-6040 Email: Seaver.FieldsIII@gric.nsn.us</p>	<p>Barney Bigman, Land Use Planner Department of Land Use Planning & Zoning Gila River Indian Community 291 West Casa Blanca Road P.O. Box E Sacaton, AZ 85147 Phone: (520) 562-6003 Fax: (520) 562-6040 Email: Barney.Bigman@gric.nsn.us</p>
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2. Public Involvement

INTRODUCTION

Public involvement efforts are crucial to the success of the transportation study. Actively engaging the public is an important aspect of assuring the project's final recommended improvements are locally acceptable and successful, as well as building local support for funding transportation improvement projects. The public involvement plan maps the team's approach and defines the roles of each participant.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TEAM

The key point of contact for public involvement on this project is:

Tony Staffaroni, Community Relations Project Manager
Arizona Department of Transportation
Telephone: (602) 245-4051
Email: AStaffaroni@azdot.gov

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of public involvement on this project is to obtain meaningful input from the community (Tribal officials, agencies, public, businesses and stakeholders). Community members use the transportation system every day and have knowledge of local issues and problems. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Multimodal Planning Division in collaboration with ADOT Communications is working with the Gila River Indian Community, and other project partners to conduct the Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Study.

It is anticipated that the Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Study for the Gila River Indian Community will take approximately twelve (12) months to complete. One round of mobile workshops will be held across the Community to obtain input on pedestrian needs and two public open houses will be held on the east and west ends of the Reservation to present proposed projects.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT GOAL

Consistent with the values and mission embraced by the Gila River Indian Community and ADOT Communications, the public involvement process for this project will strive to create an environment that provides for meaningful public dialogue and promotes opportunities for individuals with disabilities or language challenges to participate in the public outreach process. For further information on public involvement for the project, please refer to the **Gila River Indian Community Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Study Public Outreach and Involvement Plan**.

3. Project Schedule

The project is anticipated to be completed within a 12-month timeframe. The project schedule is presented in **Figure 2** and is subject to change during the study process per directive from the PMT or TAC. Four Technical Advisory Committee meetings are planned, and Project Management Team meetings are planned monthly.

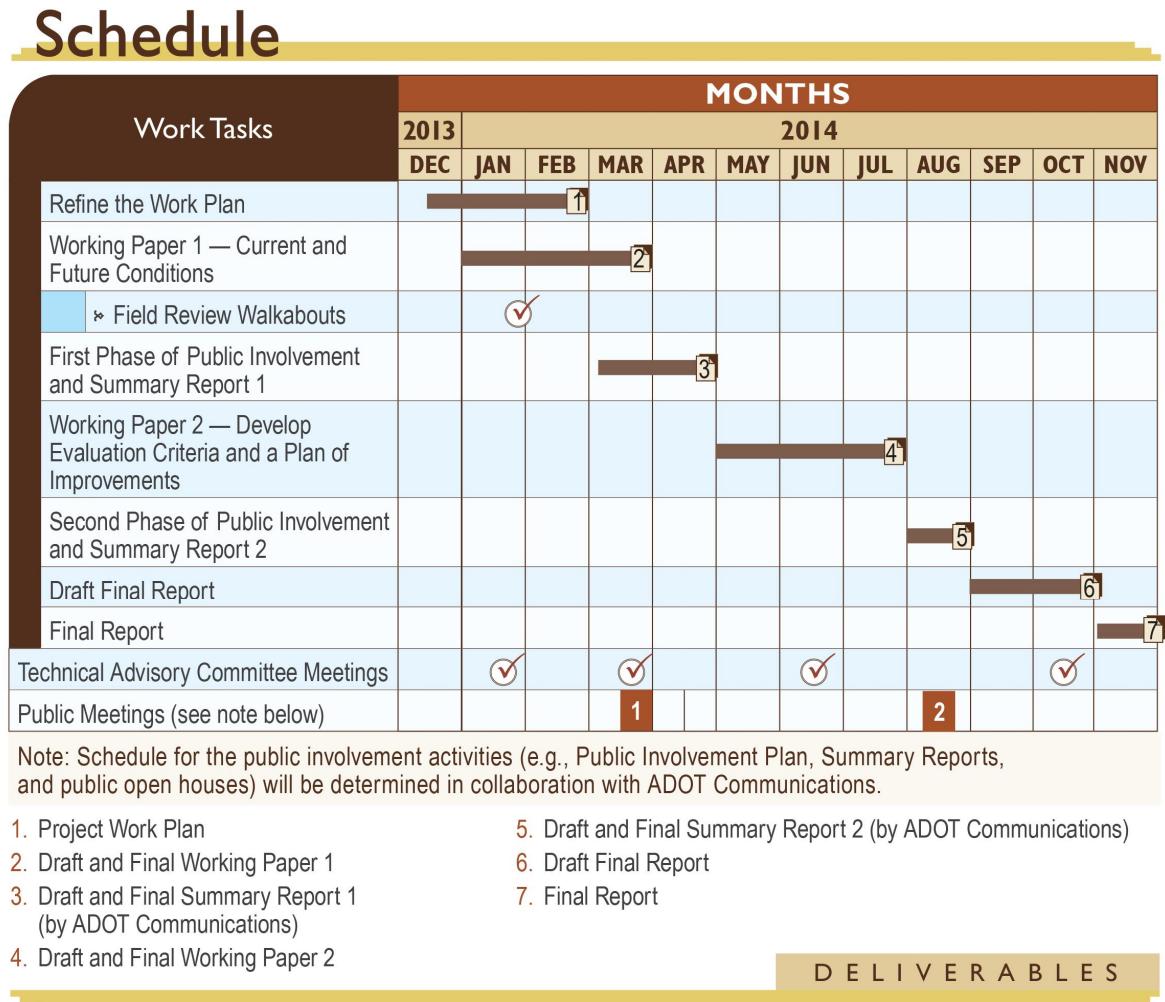


Figure 2 - Project Schedule

4. Staffing Plan

The staffing plan for the project is summarized in the organization chart presented in **Figure 3**.

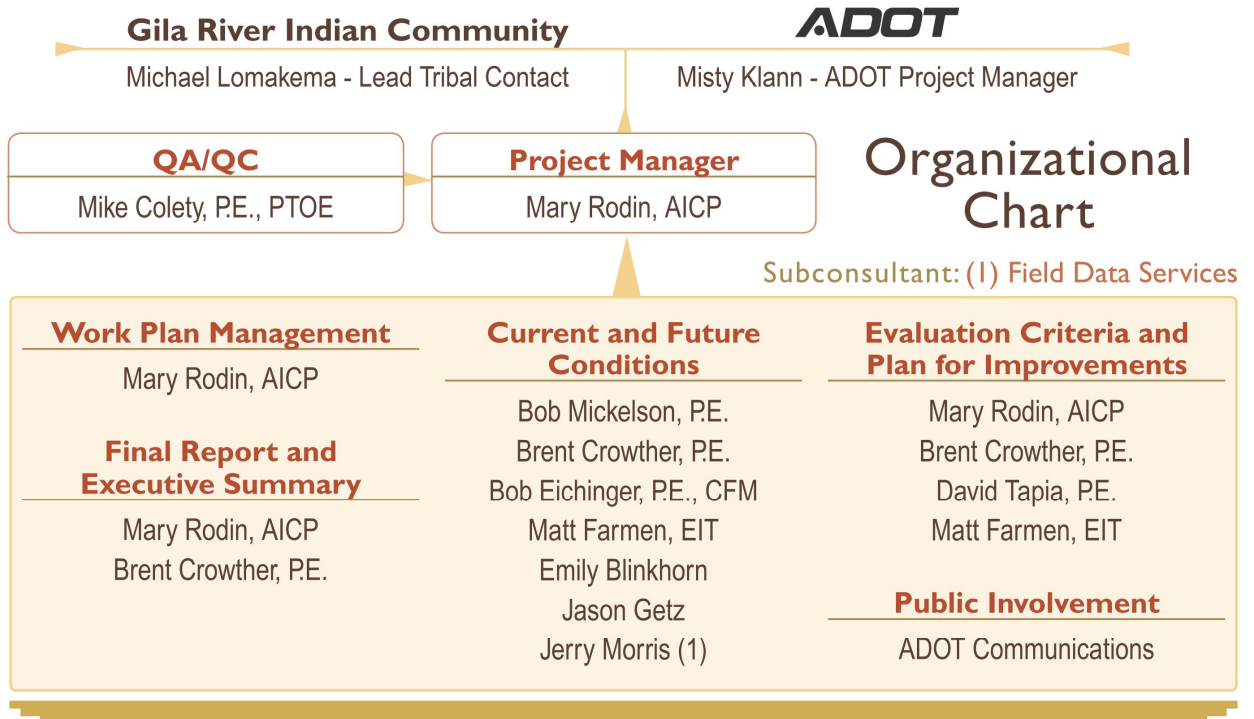


Figure 3 - Staffing Plan

5. Project Work Tasks

The Project Work Plan includes seven tasks that encompass the Scope of Work.

- Task 1: Technical Memorandum 1 – Refine the Work Plan
- Task 2: Working Paper 1 – Current and Future Conditions
- Task 3: First Phase of Public Involvement and Summary Report 1
- Task 4: Working Paper 2 – Develop Evaluation Criteria and Plan for Improvements
- Task 5: Second Phase of Public Involvement and Summary Report 2
- Task 6: Draft Final Report
- Task 7: Final Report

Task 1 – Technical Memorandum 1 – Refine The Work Plan

PURPOSE

The purpose of Task 1 is to prepare the Work Plan and project management activities.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- Conduct a kick-off meeting with the ADOT Project Manager (ADOT PM) and lead Tribal contact to discuss the Work Plan. This meeting will be held on site to encourage direct communication. Prepare a detailed map of each district's study area boundary as part of the development of the Work Plan.
- Submit the revised Work Plan to the ADOT PM and lead Tribal contact and TAC for review and approval and distribution.
- Work with ADOT Communications and the Gila River Indian Community Communications and Public Affairs Office to develop a public outreach strategy to involve all of the districts. Potential methods include use of a mobile workshop to travel to all the districts or coordinating with other Community events to obtain greater Community member participation. Participation at special interest group meetings will also be considered.
- The Team will schedule, prepare for, and attend the first TAC meeting. The purpose of the TAC meeting is to solicit input on study expectations, perspectives, and issues; review the Work Plan; and exchange information relevant to Task 2.
- Address TAC comments and prepare the Final Work Plan.
- Prepare monthly invoices and progress reports.
- Conduct monthly meetings with the Project Management Team to review project progress. When meetings are held via teleconference, we will use "share my screen" technology to present information. Informal coordination will also occur regularly.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Kick-off meeting agenda and meeting summary
- Draft and Final Work Plan
- TAC Meeting No. 1 agenda, presentation materials, and meeting summary

Task 2 – Working Paper 1 – Current and Future Conditions

PURPOSE

The purpose of Task 2 is to compile data and information on existing and future conditions in the study area to identify needs and deficiencies.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- **Review existing studies and plans.** Key documents that will be reviewed include the Gila River Indian Community Transportation Plan and the Seven Districts Master Plan, the Gila River Indian Community Transit Feasibility and Implementation Plan, as well as regional planned projects that might impact pedestrian routes.
- **Review Tribal Transportation Program transportation planning program regulations and guidelines.** The project team will review Tribal Transportation Program transportation planning program guidelines as well as the Tribal Transportation Program Inventory to identify update needs related to pedestrian facilities, such as the potential need to add trail facilities.
- **Inventory and evaluate demographic and socioeconomic characteristics and land use patterns.** The project team will use the latest census data to analyze demographic information. We will map land use patterns using Geographic Information System (GIS) including locations of schools, district service centers, recreation areas, elder and senior facilities, other activity centers, and residential areas.
- **Collect and analyze traffic data.** The project team will collect data as needed to support the justification for pedestrian facilities such as crosswalks, pedestrian beacon signals, and other pedestrian-related needs.
- **Inventory and evaluate accident history.** The project team will work with the GRIC Police Department and ADOT to obtain the latest crash data and analyze high-crash locations and causes. The project team will request 10 years or more of crash data, if available, particularly in rural areas.
- **Inventory and evaluate road conditions.** The project team will inventory and evaluate road characteristics, functional classification, location of existing sidewalks and paths, crosswalks, street lighting, and location of activity centers and residential areas. Through preliminary field reviews, we will identify existing walking and biking routes and routes that could be improved to connect nodes and activity centers. Routes may include both the fastest routes (e.g., major roadways and arterials) and routes that utilize lower-volume streets and multi-use paths. We will conduct up to seven walkabout workshops with staff and key stakeholders. The purpose of the walkabout workshops is to identify and discuss key pedestrian route deficiencies and to discuss potential improvements to these routes.
- **Transit/school bus route needs.** Kimley-Horn will inventory and evaluate needs related to transit service and school bus routes. We will interview transportation managers at the area school districts and transit providers such as Valley Metro and social service agencies. We will determine locations of bus stops and review access to these bus stops.
- **Conduct a limited environmental evaluation.** Kimley-Horn's environmental planner will prepare a Purpose and Need Statement and Inventory and evaluate characteristics of the physical, natural, and cultural environments. This includes protected areas, wildlife

habitat, wetlands, and culturally sensitive locations. We will also identify culvert needs as part of the evaluation.

- **Conduct drainage evaluation.** As part of the inventory process described above, Kimley-Horn will conduct field visits to the Community's seven districts to identify local drainage problems along the major pedestrian corridors and roadway systems. We will use the "District 3 Drainage Master Plan" we prepared for the Community and the "Reservation Wide Drainage Study" to assist with the location of drainage issues and flooding in conjunction with overlaying the existing roadway network and pedestrian pathways. As part of the public outreach, we will ask Community members about drainage problems and their locations along walking paths.
- **Conduct and document interviews with stakeholders.** The project team will develop a list of stakeholders with input from the TAC and Tribal representatives early in the process and develop a questionnaire to guide the interview process. Tribal Senior Center representatives will be interviewed. Other potential stakeholders include school transportation managers, public transit managers, Police Department staff, District Service Center representatives, and others. We will document all interviews conducted.
- **Summarize existing pedestrian and bicycle needs.** We will prepare graphical, tabular, and written summaries of all existing transportation needs as part of Working Paper 1. This will help to form the basis of the projects developed later in the study.
- **Future conditions analysis.** We will review planned roadway improvements in the Gila River Indian Community Transportation Plan and regional plans. We will work with staff to identify future development areas or new planned facilities that will need pedestrian/bicycle access in the future.
- **Schedule, prepare for, and attend the second TAC meeting.** Prepare and distribute Draft Working Paper No. 1 to the ADOT PM, Gila River Indian Community lead contact, and the TAC.
- **Finalize Working Paper 1** based on review comments and distribute report.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Working Paper No. 1 – Current and Future Conditions
- TAC Meeting 2 agenda, presentation materials, and meeting summary

Task 3 – First Phase of Public Involvement and Summary Report 1

PURPOSE

Support ADOT Communications to plan and conduct the first public outreach. The first public outreach will present information and findings related to existing and future conditions, needs, and deficiencies for public input and review. We will work with staff to develop innovative meeting strategies, such as a mobile workshop / open house to encourage participation from all of the district areas.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- Consultant team members will review plans and information developed by ADOT Communications in preparation for the public outreach.
- Consultant team members will prepare presentation boards and handout files for ADOT Communications to publish for the public outreach.
- Consultant team members will attend and present information at the public outreach events, respond to questions, and take notes of questions.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Public outreach display boards and handout files
- Meeting observations and notes for input to Public Involvement Summary Report No. 1

Task 4 – Working Paper 2 – Develop Evaluation Criteria and a Plan for Improvements

PURPOSE

Develop specific projects and implementation strategies that address the needs and deficiencies identified in previous tasks.

WORK ACTIVITIES

Identify recommended improvement projects required to meet the needs and deficiencies for five-, 10-, and 20-year planning horizons. These will be based on the needs identified in Working Paper 1 and any additional needs identified through the public involvement process. Specific areas to be addressed include:

- Roadway traffic and related pedestrian safety improvements, including shared use paths to accommodate multimodal transportation, such as pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian travel.
- Key access management techniques for pedestrian safety and traffic circulation
- Intersection safety and speed control
- Road pavement, pavement marking, signage, and street lighting projects
- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities including sidewalks, school bus stops and turnouts, and multi-use trails
- Tribal/Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) route functional classifications assessment and update recommendations.
- Road Safety Assessment recommendations
- Culvert improvement recommendations based on limited environmental analysis

The consultant team will provide detailed descriptions for short-term improvement projects per TTP planning program requirements. The team will update or add new Road Inventory Field Data System (RIFDS) Inspection Sheets as required. Other elements of the plan of improvements will include:

- Assessment to determine potential disproportionate and/or adverse effects that the projects could have on residents and discuss considerations that dictated this recommendation over alternative actions.
- Planning-level cost estimates, including estimated right-of-way design and construction costs.
- Project performance, evaluation, and prioritization criteria in an evaluation matrix format in order to prioritize the identified project improvements.

The project team will prepare and submit draft Working Paper No. 2 to the ADOT PM and Tribal lead contact for review, approval, and distribution to the TAC. Once approved, the team will schedule, prepare for, and attend the third TAC meeting to present Working Paper No. 2 for review and comment. The team will address the TAC review comments and prepare and submit the final Working Paper No. 2.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Working Paper No. 2 – Evaluation Criteria and Plan for Improvements
- TAC Meeting 3 agenda, presentation materials, and meeting summary

Task 5 – Second Phase of Public Involvement and Summary Report 2

PURPOSE

Support ADOT Communications to plan and conduct the second round of public involvement. This round will present the recommended plan of projects for review and comment.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- Consultant team members will review plans and information developed by ADOT Communications in preparation for the public meeting.
- Consultant team members will prepare presentation boards and handout files for ADOT Communications to publish for the public meeting.
- Consultant team members will attend and present information at the public meeting, respond to questions, and take notes of questions.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Public meeting display boards and handout files
- Meeting observations and notes for input to Public Involvement Summary Report No. 2

Task 6 – Draft Final Report

PURPOSE

Compile the data and findings from the working papers and summary reports into a Draft Final Report.

WORK ACTIVITIES

Prepare a Gila River Indian Community Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Plan Draft Final Report that compiles data from all working papers and input received from the stakeholders and public. The Draft Final Report will include a compilation of Working Papers 1 and 2.

The plan for recommended improvements will list specific prioritized future pedestrian safety improvement projects that may be added to the Tribe's TIP and/or Tribal Transportation Program Road Inventory Field Data System if improvements include specific prioritized future road improvement projects. An update of the TTP Inventory requires a centerline photo of each section of a route and maps showing the location of the route/route sections and its location relative to state, county, Reservation, and Congressional District boundaries. At a minimum, detailed project descriptions for short-term improvement projects will include, if applicable:

- Road name, right-of-way widths, ownership, and/or route number
- Description of the beginning and ending points of a project
- Approximate project mileage or length
- Description of existing roadway and/or site conditions
- Functional classification of the road
- Brief description of the proposed improvements
- Existing and/or proposed development served by the road
- Benefit derived from the project
- Existing and projected average daily traffic counts
- Planning-level cost estimates
- Recommendations regarding future studies in the Study area
- Summary Reports documenting the public involvement process included as an appendix to Draft Final Report.

After approval by the ADOT PM and the Tribal lead contact, distribute the Draft Final Report to the TAC and schedule, prepare for, and attend the fourth TAC meeting at which the Draft Final Report will be presented.

WORK PRODUCTS

- Draft Final Report
- TAC Meeting 4 agenda, presentation materials, and meeting summary

Task 7 – Final Report

PURPOSE

Prepare the Final Report and Executive Summary.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- Compile comments received on the Draft Final Report, and prepare a comment resolution summary.
- Address comments in the preparation of the Final Report.

WORK PRODUCTS

- To each member of the TAC—one CD copy and one hard copy of the Final Report
- To the ADOT PM—10 CD copies and 10 hard copies of the Final Report
- All travel demand models and data collected and developed for this study will be delivered to GRIC and ADOT in CD format upon completion
- All study documents will be prepared using Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, where applicable